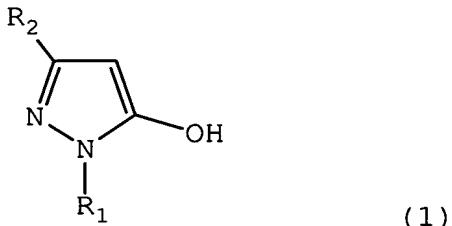


CLAIMS

1. A process for producing a 5-hydroxy-4-thiomethylpyrazole compound, comprising: reacting a pyrazole represented by formula (1):

5 (Chemical Formula 1)



(wherein R₁ represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an aromatic hydrocarbon group capable of having a substituent, or a heterocyclic group capable of having a substituent, and R₂ represents an electron-withdrawing group), with a sulfur compound represented by the following formula (2):

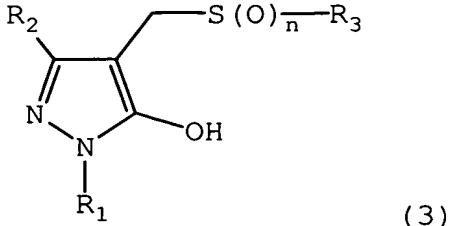
10 (Chemical Formula 2)



15 (wherein X represents a hydrogen atom or a metal, R₃ represents an alkyl group, an aromatic hydrocarbon group capable of having a substituent, or a heterocyclic group capable of having a substituent, and n represents 0 or 2) in the presence of a base and formaldehyde, to thereby produce a 5-hydroxy-4-thiomethylpyrazole compound

20 represented by the following formula (3):

(Chemical Formula 3)



25 (wherein R₁, R₂, R₃ and n have the same meanings as those described above).

2. The process for producing a 5-hydroxy-4-thiomethylpyrazole compound according to claim 1, wherein n is 0.

3. The process for producing a 5-hydroxy-4-thiomethylpyrazole compound according to claim 1, wherein n is 2.

5 4. The process for producing a 5-hydroxy-4-thiomethylpyrazole compound according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the electron-withdrawing group represented by R₂ is a trifluoromethyl group.

10 5. The process for producing a 5-hydroxy-4-thiomethylpyrazole compound according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the electron-withdrawing group represented by R₂ is a cyano group.

15 6. The process for producing a 5-hydroxy-4-thiomethylpyrazole compound according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the electron-withdrawing group represented by R₂ is an alkoxycarboxyl group, a carboxyl group or a metal salt thereof.